

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### ***Review of Voting Precincts Underway***

Since early December, counties and cities have been meeting to review voting precinct boundaries and to make changes as necessary. According to Secretary of State Al Jaeger, the review process must be completed no later than January 11, 2002, and is required by state law for the implementation of the redistricting bill, which was adopted by the North Dakota Legislative Assembly on November 30, 2001. The counties and cities must complete the review within 35 days of the December 7 effective date of that bill. In addition, some counties must change the configuration of districts from which county commissioners are elected.

While every effort will be made by counties and cities to preserve current voting precincts, Jaeger believes that some changes will be inevitable. New legislative district lines, population shifts, and the availability of accessible polling locations will have a bearing on the number of precincts established in each county.

To guide the process and to prepare for 2002 elections, Jaeger has provided a 186-day timetable to the counties, cities, and political parties for them to follow between now and the primary/county-city election on June 11.

After the voting precincts have been legally established, the state's political parties will be reorganizing their party structures to conform to the new precincts and legislative district lines. Those meetings are scheduled to take place between February 11 and April 11. Interested persons should check their official county newspaper in late January and early February for the legal notice that will be published by county auditors listing the dates and locations of the reorganizational meetings.

The filing deadline is April 12 for candidates to have their name printed on the June ballot. For those interested, How to Run for Public Office pamphlets are available from the Secretary of State's office at 800-352-0867, ext. 8-4146 or on the Internet at [www.state.nd.us/sec](http://www.state.nd.us/sec).

#### **NOTE TO EDITORS:**

The following is a listing of meeting dates that have been scheduled by the state's respective counties to review voting precincts. As you will note, some of the meetings have already taken place. However, there are many counties who have not yet met and who will do so shortly after the first of the year.

The second following portion of this e-mail is the timetable between now and the primary/county-city elections on June 11, 2002.